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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Union of South Africa
 SUBJECT African Transocean-Safmarine Airline Merger
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1. "African Transocean-Safmarine Airline has not yet applied for traffic authorization and the Airline's future is dubious due to small financial backing and the opposition from the government airline. As the Airline officials Colonels Preller and Loftus and General Mellenthin have only meager financial backing for the African Transocean half of the merger, it is believed that if a serious attempt to form an airline is made, Safmarine will run the show."
2. "In any event, the chances of the Airline's being allowed to compete to Europe against SAA [South African Airways] and six other airlines are small and the airline people here [in South Africa] find it hard to see how traffic between South Africa and the US could support an airline. The same people here do not appear to be taking this venture too seriously at least."

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